IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE RECEIVING OFFICE

TREATING, IN PARTICULAR,

METALLIC WORKPIECES

§ Attorneys' Docket No. 016273-00900

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP PCT Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows: